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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

BARBADOS.

Smallpox decreasing.

United States Consul Macallister reports November 29, as follows:

The smallpox epidemic here is rapidly abating and there is now strong hope that the disease will soon disappear. The disease broke out on July 13. Since that date there have been 1,368 cases; of these, 1,068 have been released as cured and 110 have died, leaving only 190 cases under treatment. During the past two weeks there have been but 32 cases and 3 deaths.

. Unless there shall be an increase in the number of daily cases, I do not think it necessary to make further special reports until the rigorous quarantine against Barbados imposed by the neighboring islands and ports shall be taken off, which I trust may be in a few weeks. I shall, of course, be governed by any instructions you may give me on the subject.

Mr. James Sanderson, clerk of the general board of health and quarantine board, reports from Barbados, December 6, as follows:

Since the 22d ultimo 26 cases of smallpox have occurred, being 12 less than in the previous fortnight, and there have been 1 death and 148 discharges, leaving 115 under treatment last night.

CHINA.

Reports from Hongkong.

HONGKONG, CHINA, November 4, 1902.

Week ended November 1, 1902. Number of vessels inspected, 12; individuals bathed at the disinfecting station, 757; bundles of clothing and bedding disinfected by steam, 1,062.

The sanitary returns show that there was 1 case of enteric fever reported from the "Peak District;" otherwise there were no cases of

communicable disease reported in the colony during the week.

The mortality returns for the month of September, 1902, published in the Hongkong Government Gazette, show a total of 555 deaths from all causes, a percentage mortality (excluding the army and navy) of 21.6 per 1,000 per annum. The percentage mortality among the British and foreign population was 28.1 per 1,000 per annum, among the Chinese land population 21.7 per 1,000 per annum, and among the Chinese boating population 19.8 per 1,000 per annum.

Of the total deaths, 1 was due to smallpox, 2 to dengue, 1 to cerebrospinal fever, 1 to diphtheria, 2 to enteric fever, 25 to cholera, 31 to diarrhea, 8 to dysentery, and 6 to bubonic plague; 30 were due to malaria, 53 to beriberi, 9 to meningitis, and 28 to idiopathic tetanus; 32 were due to bronchitis, 26 to pneumonia, 53 to phthisis, and 1 to

sprue.